NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO

AGRICULTURE & DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

BY THE EDITOR.

ON FOREST TREES.

As trees both for timber and fuel have become scarce in many parts of the country, it is quite time to pay a more particular attention to the preservation of wood lots and the planting of forest trees than we have heretofore. We shall, therefore, offer some desultory remarks on this topic, premising, that as our object is *utility*, we shall not waste our time, nor that of our readers, by exhibiting models of labored but empty phraseology. What we wish is to be *understood*, and if we obtain the approbation of *farmers*, we shall mind the idle wind of critical carpers no more than the humming of a humble bee that "wheels his droning flight" from one head of clover to another. And first we shall say something in addition to what we have formerly said on the subject of planting trees, which will apply as well to forest trees as to fruit trees.

In our opinion the Rock Maple, or Sugar Maple, is, on many accounts, and in many situations, to be preferred to any tree which is adapted to our soil and climate. For fuel, it is scarcely, if at all, inferior to walnut, and the value of its sap or juice is too well known, and too highly appreciated to require a syllable in its favor. We wish the borders of all our highways, where this tree will grow, (and it will grow in almost any soil except a mere swamp and a dry sandy waste) might be adorned with this beautiful and useful tree. But it will be well for those who undertake to plant this, as well as all other trees, to make thorough and correct work of it. There is nothing in which haste makes greater waste, or negligence punishes the person who is guilty of it, in a more exemplary manner than in the planting of trees. If that kind of labor is not well done, it had better be altogether omitted. If you *half plant* a tree, your soil is cumbered, perhaps for years, with a *half alive* stock, a monument of the indolence and bad husbandry of the owner of the premises. We would as lief see dilapidated barn doors, rotten fences but three and an half feet high, or holes of broken windows half stopped with the ragged remnants of old petticoats, as cankered, worm eaten, blasted fruit or forest trees, dying by inches about a farmer's homestead. If a tree is badly set out, or stunted by mismanagement, when in its infancy, no subsequent art or attention will ever make it thrive. Therefore I tell you again and again, what you do do, do well; for otherwise you may as well do nothing. You will then please to proceed according to our directions, page 301, unless you have some better method of your own. And if you have a better method please to communicate it for the New England Farmer, and we shall be happy to give it to the public, together with the name of the author, in our best style of CAPITAL printing.

There are many sorts of Maples enumerated by Botanists, but the only kind which we should think it expedient to cultivate is the Acer Saccharinum, rock maple, or sugar maple. This kind of tree bears transplanting better than almost any other. It is true, we believe, in general, that it is better to take trees for planting from a nursery than from a forest. An able writer in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository, vol. v, p. 36, affirms that "the practice of transplanting trees from our forests, of six or ten years growth, robbed as they must be of the greater portion of their fibrous roots, and suddenly exposed to a soil and air to which they have been unaccustomed, cannot be too much reprobated." The maple tree, however, will succeed better than almost any other under such treatment. All sorts of maple may, likewise, be propagated by cuttings. And if they be cut from the trees before the buds begin to swell, and before the ground be fit to receive them, they may be wrapped in moss, and put in a cool place, where they may be kept a month or five weeks without injury. These trees may also be raised by sowing the seeds, commonly called keys.*

In clearing land it is customary to reserve or leave standing some of these trees, especially if the land is intended for pasture. This *may* be a good practice, though it is not without inconveniences and danger. The heavy tops, exuberant foliage and long trunks of these trees expose them very much to the wind, and they are frequently blown over, turning up with their roots a large portion of the surface of the soil. From this cause it is often dangerous to permit cattle to range among maple trees, which obtained their growth in a forest, and are afterwards exposed in open land to the gusts of wind which so frequently accompany showers in the summer months. It is better, in clearing land, to leave small maples, or to protect and rear a second growth, than to undertake to preserve the ancient tenants of the forests. Trees which have ever been *accustomed* to free currents of air will put forth roots adapted to their exposure. Twenty or thirty trees to an acre of pasture will do but little injury to the grass, will afford a shade and shelter grateful and beneficial to cattle, and, six or eight acres thus stocked with rock maple trees, will afford a valuable sugar orchard. Mr. Bordley, in speaking of these trees says—"A grove of them, two or three acres, would give comfortable shady walks and sugar for family use; the making whereof would require but a short time, and be an entertaining harvest. The trees 30 feet apart, are above 48 on an acre; which at a low reckoning would yield 200 lbs. of sugar an acre, deducting only a trifle, not so much for labor as for a short attention in the leisure month of February.† From seeds it may be 20 years before the trees yield much sugar, but they soon form a delightful shady grove, and they grow readily from seeds. Instead of 48 trees there may be 48 clumps of three or more sugar maples in each clump. Sugar maples growing in fields, uncrowded, give 7 lbs. of sugar a tree; then clumps of four trees may yield 24 lbs. a clump; and 48 such clumps may be reckoned to give 1150 to 1300 lbs. from an acre."*

We believe Mr. Bordley has made a large allowance of sugar in his calculations, and he says nothing of the fuel for boiling the sap; but still a sugar-lot may be made sufficiently profitable to become an object worthy of attention. And it should not be forgotten that the rock maple not only pays its annual tribute, in a delicious and wholesome product, but at the end of its term yields a more valuable species of firewood than almost any tree of the American forest.

Oak.—Mr. Miller says "Oaks are best produced from the acorns in the places where the trees are to remain; because those which are transplanted will not grow to so large a size, nor remain sound so long."† The author of the Agricultural Report of Scotland says, "Trees may be raised by sowing seeds on the spot where they are to grow. There are now many promising oaks among the plantations at Gartmore, which have sprung from the acorn dibbled into soil altogether unimproved." Again, he observes, "It is the opinion of physiologists, that trees have that portion of their nourishment, which they derive from the soil, conveyed to them by their minute fibres, which run in every direction from the root, called the *tap-root*, proceeding downwards in a perpendicular direction, and the use of which is to support the tree against the violence of the winds. In removing any tree from its first situation, *some* injury must be done to these fibres, and especially to the *tap root;* and the *oftener* the tree is removed the *greater* will be this injury. In this respect, a tree, which is permitted to grow in its original site has an advantage over the transplanted tree. In the same view, a plant taken from the seed bed, and planted but once, (instead of suffering a *first* transplantation to the nursery, and then a *second* into a plantation,) will surely have the best chance of success. And where is the impracticability of raising such plants? If the nursery man will only sow his acorns in drills, sufficiently wide to admit of hoeing, and thin the plants the first and second years after they have come up, by removing the more unpromising ones, he can by the third year furnish plants of sufficient growth, that have suffered no *previous* injury by removal from the seed-bed. Still, however, there appears to be something *contrary to nature* in removing a tree from the spot in which it had its origin."‡ This, however, must frequently be done from necessity, and if due care is taken in transplanting a young tree, but little if any injury is received by the tree which is removed. Some writers, however, maintain that two or three times transplanting a tree is necessary to give it a fair start. Every root and fibre, they say, which is cut off in order to prepare a tree for transplanting is succeeded by several roots and fibres, the number of *vegetable mouths*, by which the plant procures food from

* Deane's N. E. Farmer, Wells & Lilly's ed. p. 263.
† March and April, in New England.

* Bordley's Husbandry, p. 4.
† Deane's N. E. Farmer, Art. *Oak*.
‡ Agricultural Report of Scotland.

the soil is thus increased, and a more rapid and vigorous growth is the consequence. But in addition to the authority above quoted in opposition to the theory of digging up trees and cutting off their roots in order to make them thrive more abundantly, we beg leave to cite the example of *nature*. Trees planted by her hand in forests which have never been pervaded by human foot steps, have, of course, never been *transplanted*, but yet exhibit the largest and most perfect specimens of their kinds.

The acorns for planting oaks should be taken from the largest and most thrifty trees. They may be gathered as soon as they fall in autumn, and kept in a box or boxes of sand till the following spring Then open them and plant such as have sprouted, allowing no time for the sprouts to dry.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

I here enclose a treat, a literal translation of an ancient fragment, which I wish to see versified* and published in thy paper. During the summer of 1813, I was in Philadelphia, and hearing of a curious old German book called *Archimedes' Work Shop*, after some trouble, I obtained the loan of it for some months. It was an uncommonly large folio, printed in Nimmeguen, in 1661. It was principally composed of *plates*, of which there were upwards of three hundred. The language was obsolete *German* and *Latin*, with some *Greek*, and required the study of the most learned men in the city to read it. The plates were intelligible, and it appeared to really be the work of Archimedes. There were drawings of various kinds of Machinery, which he took in travelling through Egypt, such as Joseph's Well, 300 feet deep, and 600 wide, cut through a rock, with winding stairs, and water drawn from one reservoir to another by screws. He said that at *the building of Thebes* the sciences were better understood than in his time. The learned Divines were anxious to know his religion, or ideas of the *Supreme Being;* therefore by resorting to old Lexicons the enclosed translation was made.—There is no imposition—it is genuine. I wish to see it versified, and published in your paper, in order to show the ideas of this eminent philosopher with regard to the SUPREME BEING, and the necessity of labor.

SAMUEL PRESTON.

Stockport, Pa. April 3, 1823.

A LITERAL TRANSLATION OF ARCHIMEDES' HYMN ON THE STRUCTURE OF GOD'S WORKMANSHIP.

1. The great GOD hath drawn in wisdom the high arched circumference of the world;
2. And has by his knowledge ordered every thing one against the other.
3. He has placed water against the land; the hill against the dale;
4. And, indeed, without any trouble or labor of his hands.
5. Soon as he spake the word was every thing completed, which he designed;
6. And in so masterly a manner, that whosoever thinks of it is astonished and lost in wonder.
7. But as he himself first upreared this globe,
8. So has he also implanted a part of the godhead in man,
9. As the image out of which he himself looks, and sends forth rays of his power from his eyes.
10. Hence the earthly man, he whose origin is clay, is so divinely enlightened and celestially exalted,
11. That he, soaring after his Creator, obtains the spirit of wisdom, and brings to the light of day many of the works of art.
12. Thus has God created this out-work of the world, with its appurtenances, and beautifully ornamented all things.
13. So man builds in the world no otherwise than as if he were a journeyman in God's great work shop.
14. He searches heights and depths, how hills and vallies arrange themselves, in wonderful and uninterrupted continuation, surrounding one another, even as the elm and the vine.
15. His omniscient mind compels the drought and moisture to do whatsoever he commands them.
16. Nevertheless, for all things which man can perform, there is required time and pains.
17. These things cannot be immediately performed.
18. What God can effect by his command will not forthwith be done by the mere word of man.
19. Art has her right, she can indeed subdue all things, and what appears impossible, she can, notwithstanding, accomplish.
20. Yet does she require many an hour and great industry, until she seems sure of her aim, according to her wish.
21. The noble palaces in which princes dwell can never be raised while we shun the requisite labor, but will come short of being finished.
22. Without an unwearied hand the artist will never acquire glory.
23. The floods which pour their waters into the deep vallies are not by nature accustomed to flow up hill;
24. But obedient to the power of art, which forces them towards the heavens, they spring, as it were, to the clouds, from the lowest depths.
25. Yet, nothing is done without toil. The strong current of water must, as it were, be compelled by computation, by number, weight and measure, which does not err in the least, and by much manual labor to ascend aloft.
26. How all these things are to be performed, according to art, is here notified to be seen in this Book; in it are produced to view the rudiments of those arts, which Europe keeps concealed.

It appears that when Archimedes wrote this book he was in Egypt. The hymn was in 26 stanzas, in long lines.

* We hope our friend will excuse us for not attempting to versify the sentiments of Archimedes. We believe the ideas of the author can be more *exactly* given in prose than in verse; besides, we have not leisure, at present, to give them a metrical form. If any of our friends or correspondents will clothe them in a poetical garb, we shall esteem it a favor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

I have known the following experiment tried for the purpose of killing bushes and improving worn out land, and the result has much more than equalled the anticipations of the owner. Should you deem this worthy of an insertion in your paper, you are at liberty to make that use of it; otherwise you may dispose of it as you do of other useless communications. Previous to the season of 1818, the bushes, on a lot, containing about three and an half acres, had been mowed, annually, for three or four years, without perceptibly diminishing their number. During the May of this season, about a bushel of plaister to an acre was sowed on the whole lot. Towards the last of June clover began to make its appearance among the grass and bushes, and wherever the bushes were formerly the largest, the clover grew, and still continues to grow rankest. Notwithstanding cattle ran in the lot several days in June, by the middle of July it afforded a crop of the first year's growth of bushes and clover, equal in value to the profit of either of the ten preceding years. Since then, the crops have continued to increase both in quality and quantity, and the bushes are now almost exterminated. The killing of the bushes with much less labor and expense than in any other way with which I am acquainted, is not the only advantage derived from this method of improving pastures; the shrub apple trees which abound in almost all old pastures can, by engrafting them and keeping cattle out of the lot, easily be made thrifty, and soon, bearing trees, which has been done in the above case. As circumstances permit nearly a correct estimate of the improvement in the value of the mowed crop, I will state that ten years since this lot was leased for three dollars, and that the present owner has been offered twenty five dollars a year for the grass the two last years; thus affording an increase of profit of more than eight to one. This has been effected with less than one load of manure and but two dressings of plaister. Should any one object to trying this experiment even on a small scale, on account of his land's being too bushy, I can assure him that some part of this lot would, a few years since, compare with his worst. The stones, except the most prominent, will gradually disappear by the rotting of the fallen growth, and the land becomes much more smooth, than most people would suppose at the first thought. A similar experiment has been commenced on a lot of twenty acres, and with a prospect as yet of as complete success as in the former case. From experience I have been induced to believe that mowing lands without letting cattle on them at all, is the cheapest as well as the most effectual way to kill bushes, and frequently far more profitable. No one can doubt for a moment but that feeding is to bushes what weeding is to corn, and that the closer a pasture is fed the less the obstruction is to the growth of the bushes, as they are always left untouched.

ANONYMOUS.

April 16, 1823.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

MR. FESSENDEN—I have seen in your excellent paper, the use of Lime often highly recommended to the practical farmer as a manure. It is said to be very useful in order to prepare green or long manure for immediate use. Would it not confer a favor on your patrons, if some one, who is acquainted with the use and operation of lime, would communicate through the medium of your paper, the manner and the quantity which should be mixed with a load of green manure, and also how long after the mixture before the straw and stubble will be decomposed and fit for use?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Livermore, Maine, April 19, 1823.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

I have noticed with satisfaction the remarks of my venerable worthy friend, Col. T. Pickering, respecting the strength of Timber, in No. 32 of the New England Farmer. The strength and duration of timber are certainly an interesting subject to farmers; and as the lands are cleared up, and timber becoming scarce, it will become more so.

It is not a subject that will admit of mathematical demonstration; observations and experiments are all the evidence that we can have. As I have formerly been accustomed to working in wood, and from an early period of life paid attention to the subject, and the observations

and directions of men of more age and experience, I make a few remarks in hopes it may induce others to communicate more full and correct information.

Since my memory, there was living in the neighborhood of the place of my nativity, (Bucks County, Pa.) a very worthy and respectable character whose name was ALEXANDER BROWN. He was more curious, particular, and exact in every thing he did, or had done, than any other man. He gave rise to a saying "More nice than wise, like Alexander Brown."

In his early days, before saw mills were erected, his business was to go about with a company of hands, and do the sawing for the buildings, with whip saws. A large landed patrimony falling to him, he cleared up several farms for his sons, and erected several substantial buildings. His life was more devoted to experiments than lucrative speculations. He used to say that the nerves and strength of old trees, like those of old men, began to fail gradually, many years before they died; and that for all his buildings or fences he only took such timber as he termed in the vigor and prime of life; and all his timber for fences, or other uses, he would have fell in February, when hardest frozen, saying then there was the least sap in the pores to corrode and rot the wood. He never would suffer a post set in the ground except top end down; but said posts split out of the same cut, set with the top end in the ground, would last three or four times as long as buts down. In splitting the posts, if any run too small at the top to set in the ground, he would not use them as posts. In making fences, every rail must be put heart side up, and this gave rise to another saying, viz: "As durable as Alexander Brown's fences." He died at a very advanced age, during the revolutionary war, highly esteemed as a truly honest and useful man, having been for many years considered as the oracle or pattern for all the best farmers in the circle of his particular acquaintance.

The next man I shall mention of great observation and experience in the strength and duration of timber, is THOMAS ELLICOTT, noted as the most ingenious Millwright of his time. With him I was intimately acquainted; he followed building and repairing mills and waggons on a large scale, successively, for forty years. I have felled timber for his purposes. As to the proper season, he was a disciple of Alexander Brown. White oak timber, for waggons or mills, was all felled in February, when hardest frozen. His rule to select the strongest and solidest wood was to cut into the trees and take those of the largest growths. If by cutting in, the growths near the bark were smaller than the others, he considered the wood declining, and rejected such trees. He never used more than about twelve feet of the but for waggon wheels; then generally came a saw log for mill works. His better mode of seasoning his timber for the most strong durable work, was, at first, soak it three months in a pond of water, to take out the sap, and prevent what they call "powder posting," or being eaten with small worms. Such was the practice of Thomas Ellicott, founded on accurate observation and extensive experience. He never would cut timber for his business, only when hardest frozen in the winter, except small tough white ash, for *Cradle fingers*. He found, by experience, that kind of wood tempered best for that purpose, if cut down when full of sap, and the bark loose.

As perhaps every farmer may not know how to make cradle fingers in the best and readiest manner, to the exact crook of the scythe, I will give the simple process. Lay the scythe on a plank or slab, and mark round the back of it with chalk; bore a row of holes on each side the chalk, at a proper distance apart, to take in the fingers, when rough shaved out; put pins in the holes, and it is the mould to set the fingers. Take the but of a small white ash, say four or six inches diameter, the straighter grain and larger growth the better; split it into suitable pieces, carefully marking exactly on the ends which side was next the heart; then shave them down square, nearly to the size, so as by the square they will all bend exactly from the heart, for all such young wood naturally inclines to spring from the heart. Make a fire of hot embers and ashes by the water—run them in the fire, and dip them in the water and fire alternately until they are heated through. They will then be very limber to put in the mould. As soon as they are dried through, they are fit for use, and if properly treated will never incline to spring back—will be easier and smoother dressed than crooked stuff, and being straight grained are stronger and may be dressed smaller.

I now wish to hear a statement of the nature and properties of Timber in the Eastern States, for I believe there is a difference in the nature of timber in different ages and climates.

SAMUEL PRESTON.

Stockport, Pa. April 10, 1823.

From the American Farmer.

CULTURE OF SWEET POTATOES.

Hopkinsville, Ken. Jan. 30, 1823.

J. S. SKINNER, Esq.

Sir—In the American Farmer, of the 3d inst. I find an inquiry, as to the kind of manure best adapted to the raising of sweet potatoes, and the best kind of culture, to insure a great crop. I readily agree with the inquirer, that this is a most valuable vegetable, and has been too long very much neglected. Yet I make no pretensions to answer his inquiries on this subject; but only to state a few facts, giving a brief detail of my own mode of cultivating this root.

I will premise that any increase of crop was not ascertained by actual admeasurement, but only by the eye, when viewed in bulk, and a larger root for several years in succession, after my mode had been fairly tried.

The first step in the process, is to enclose the lot intended for your sweet potatoe crop to itself. Your ground is, of course, to be next ploughed; and here I will remark, that for no crop is deep tilth more necessary. When your ground is thus prepared, throw it into ridges, three and a half feet apart, with a large bar share plough, causing the upper points of the two meeting furrows, to come within two or three inches of each orher. On top of these ridges lay your plantings one foot apart, each planting forming a triangle with the two preceding, then cover them with a hoe, pulling up the earth from between the ridges. It is desirable to cover them with rich mould; if the planting is embedded in a clay covering, it does not vegetate so quick; consequently the root is more apt to perish. This ridge, when it is covered, should be as high as a large potatoe hill. This mode of putting in your crop, together with the subsequent culture, will be found, upon trial, to take far less labor than the usual method of making and planting in hills.—The chief of the tillage, until you come to hilling, may be done with a light one horse plough. But the greatest saving of labor is in gathering your crop; which is performed after throwing the vines in a line between the ridges, then with a plough, throwing one third on each side of each ridge on the vines. Nearly all the potatoes will be left in the remainder of the ridge, which are to be thrown in baskets, and conveyed immediately to your potatoe cellar, which ought to be uncovered every day until they are done sweating.

The chief advantage, however, which I promise myself is the subsequent use I make of my potatoe lot. Those who prefer the old mode of management, may still pursue it, and derive the same advantage in giving their ground an aptitude for the growth of this root. Nothing is necessary to insure an annual increase of crop, the seasons being equal, than as soon as you get your potatoes off the ground to turn in your hogs intended for slaughter, and there to fatten them until they are ready for slaughter. I have known a good crop made where this plan had been pursued in a very dry season, when not a single neighbor, without it, made any.

If you deem the foregoing worthy of being presented to your correspondents, you are at liberty to do so. Your's, &c. A. Z.

NOTE.—You will perceive that I have not attempted any reasoning on the foregoing; no doubt, the chief benefit is by the deep rooting of the hogs, and consequent action of frost upon the earth—moreover, some manure is deposited.

TO REMOVE VERMIN FROM CATTLE.

I have found that a small decoction of tobacco, washed over a beast infested with vermin, will generally drive them away; it sometimes makes the beast very sick for a short time.

But a better remedy is to mix plenty of strong Scotch snuff in train oil, and rub the back and neck of the creature with it, which will effectually kill or drive away all vermin from a quadruped. MIDDLESEX.

To the Editors of the N. Y. Statesman.

DANVERS, (Ms.) March 30, 1823.

I observed in your paper of Oct. last a paragraph from a Cincinnati correspondent respecting the cultivation of woad. I have the last year cultivated this plant on about five acres, and had three good crops, considering the season, the autumn being dry We use it with indigo upon our best wool. I see no good reason why the indigo shrub will not thrive here, and perhaps it may be used green or dried by our dyers in cases of necessity.

Our superfine merino wool is as good as any from Spain, and I have seen better and softer cloth made from American wool than some imported, at $1,25.

How to extract poison from a rusty nail.—Take a bean, and after splitting it apply one half (flat side) to the wound, bind it on, let it remain till it comes off itself, and the poison will be extracted and the wound healed.

DESCRIPTION OF A BRUSH FOR DESTROYING CATERPILLARS' NESTS.

To the Corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society.

Dear Sir—For the last three or four years, we have here had very few caterpillars. Last week I observed an increased number, though not many, on my young apple trees. How to destroy them *most easily*, was a question which occurred as often as I have seen orchards infested with them: while I always considered it disgraceful to a farmer to suffer his trees to be stripped of their leaves, and their fruit, for that season at least, to be destroyed; seeing it was very practicable to get rid of them, and without much trouble, by crushing them, when small, with the fingers. This was my father's mode, when I was a boy. The same long, light ladders, which served in autumn in gathering his winter fruit by hand, enabled one to come at most of the caterpillars' nests in the spring. On this effectual example I have myself practised, since I became a farmer. Some over delicate persons might object to this mode: but it is really far less offensive than the bare sight of large and numerous nests with which apple trees are sometimes filled. And if the operation be performed early, when the caterpiliars are only from a quarter to a half an inch long, the operator (man or boy) will feel no repugnance to the process. But in full grown trees, some nests towards the extremities of their small limbs would escape, because not accessible by ladders. A narrow brush, formed with small bunches of bristles in a single row, I once thought might reach and destroy them; but it was not found effectual nor convenient. Last Saturday morning the idea of the proper kind of brush occurred to me, and in the forenoon I tried it with complete success.

I presume every farmer has observed, that the clusters of eggs producing caterpillars, are laid round the slender twigs of the apple tree and wild cherry, and effectually guarded by a gummy covering, until vegetation commences in the ensuing spring. When first hatched, the worms appear about the eighth of an inch long. The same warmth in the air which opens the buds, hatches the catterpillars to feed on the embryo leaves. Their first object is to provide for themselves a tent for shelter, in their new state, against the inclemencies of the weather. For this purpose, they crawl to a small fork of a limb, where the branches form a sharp angle; and there spin and weave a web with which they surround it, and where they are secure against undue cold and heat and rain. By this small white web they are discovered, and are then most easily destroyed. But the clusters of eggs are not all hatched at the same time. According to their situation for warmth or coolness, they are hatched some days earlier or later. At the distance, therefore, of a week or ten days after the first visit, an orchard should be again inspected, and all the latter broods destroyed. If neglected in this first state, they soon, by their growth, become straitened for room; and having also consumed the nearest forage, they march and take a new station, and there form a new and more ample tent. By such neglect the mischief of their ravages is increased, and they are with more difficulty destroyed.

The efficient and convenient instrument above mentioned, for this work, is nothing more than a common bottle brush fastened on the end of a pole. Having an old one in my house, I was enabled to make the experiment on the day when the idea of so applying it occurred to me. This brush is made of hogs bristles, introduced between two stiff wires closely twisted: and being convenient in cleaning the insides of bottles, is probably familiarly known whenever liquors are bottled. For the information of others, I will mention, that a piece of wire full one tenth of an inch in diameter, about three feet long, doubled, and leaving a small loop in the middle, is closely twisted for the length of about eight or ten inches from the loop; and then the bristles, being introduced between the remainder of the branches of the wire, and these closely twisted upon them, the bristles are immovably fixed; and thus form (after being uniformly sheared) a cylindrical brush about six inches long and two and a half in diameter. To fasten this conveniently to a pole, with a small gouge I made a groove about seven or eight inches long at the small end of the pole, in which nearly all the handle (the naked portion of the twisted wire) of the brush was laid, and bound on with three strings.

In using the brush, press it on the small nest, and turning the pole in the hand, the web is entangled with the bristles, and removed: otherwise, you rub the fork of the limb, inside and outside, with a brush, when nest and worms are surely killed or brought down. That the experimenter may see its mode of operation, he may apply the brush with his hand to a nest within his reach. Spruce poles are eligible, because that wood is light and stiff. For my small trees, I found a common bean pole (used for running beans to climb on) six or seven feet long, sufficient: and for them a longer pole would be inconvenient. For taller trees, poles proportionably long must be provided.

If you are satisfied, by my account, of the utility of this simple instrument for destroying caterpillars, you may think it proper immediately to make it publicly known. Should the description be more minute than is requisite for communicating a clear idea of it, and its application, you will abridge it.

With very great respect and esteem,
I am, dear Sir, truly yours,
TIMOTHY PICKERING.

The following remarks on the subject of Agriculture are from the New York Statesman. They were occasioned by an attempt to repeal certain acts by the New York Legislature, making appropriations out of the treasury for the promotion of Agriculture.

We have never entertained but one view of the expediency of the appropriations heretofore made for the encouragement of agriculture; and that has been decidedly in favor of the liberal policy of the government. The agricultural Societies, instituted in the several counties of the state, in consequence of the munificence of former legislatures, have already been of essential service to the community, and results still more important may be looked for in a few years, if these valuable institutions shall continue to receive the patronage and support of the state. We do not hazard much in asserting, that greater advances have been made in the cultivation of the lands, in the breed of cattle and horses, and in domestic manufactures, since the establishment of the Board of Agriculture and Agricultural Societies, than had been for the twenty years previous.

In many parts of the state, the face of the country has assumed an entirely different aspect. A generous emulation has been excited among the farmers. Agricultural science, improvements in rural implements, the successful experiments of others in introducing new modes of tillage, new varieties of vegetables and fruits, and generally, the most effectual means of increasing the productiveness of the earth with the least labor and expense, have become the common topics of conversation. A spirit of inquiry has gone forth; antiquated and laborious modes of cultivation have been examined and exploded; prejudices which had become inveterate by long usage have been corrected; and a system of rural philosophy and domestic economy has been introduced.

Independent of the immediate benefit to agriculture, arising from the influence of these societies, they have had a salutary effect on the community by increasing the general stock of knowledge. A vast body of useful information, topographical and statistical, has been widely circulated through the state, in books, pamphlets, anniversary addresses, reports, and newspaper essays. The varieties of soil, the productions, and resources of the several counties of the state are much better understood. Farmers have become more accustomed to read, reflect, and reason on subjects relating to their profession; and the general mass of intelligence has been greatly augmented.

The competition excited by annual exhibitions and awards of premiums has led to habits of greater activity and industry in both sexes. All classes have been stimulated by a laudable ambition to excel in agricultural knowledge and skill, in rural wealth and rustic honors. Cattle Shows and Fairs are regarded, not as mere holidays for relaxation from labors and as seasons of festivity, but as the fields of fame, where the farmer contests the rewards of ingenuity, industry, and superior merit, and wins for his brow a wreath of victory, not less honorable, and far more useful to society, than the bay of the scholar, or the laurel of the soldier. The fabrics of the housewife, and the products of the husbandman are on these occasions exhibited in triumph, and the fatigues of labor in some degree compensated by the meed of public distinction and applause.

Another benefit derived from the institution of these societies has been the increased popularity of agricultural pursuits. The profession of the farmer has been rendered more respectable and more fashionable than formerly. Men of talents and of wealth have turned their attention to agriculture, and are now engaged in experiments for the promotion and improvement of the science. The efforts of these wealthy and public spirited individuals have already been attended with the happiest effects.

We have been surprised that the members of our legislature, with the experience of other countries and other states as well as that of our own before them, should again attempt the abolition of societies, from which such obvious and important advantages have been derived. The proposition is the more singular at this time, when *Agricultural Schools* have been projected, the objects of which are in most respects similar to those of the institutions now in existence.

We were happy to see new plans proposed for the benefit of the agricultural interest.—They would doubtless be attended with great practical utility. Much has been done by the government for the other interests of the community. Scientific, literary, and other institutions have been munificently endowed and liberally patronized; while, till lately, very little has been done for agriculture, and it is now proposed to withhold even that pittance. A policy so short-sighted and narrow in its views would seriously injure the reputation which the state has acquired both at home and abroad, for being foremost in the great system of internal improvements, now rapidly extending throughout the country.

MUSTARD, HOW MIXED.

Boil a sufficient quantity of horse radish in the best white wine vinegar, add to it half as much mountain or good raisin wine, and a little double refined sugar; then make it up to a proper consistency with the best unadulterated Durham flour of mustard, stop it up close, and it will keep for years. Mustard thus made has an inconceivably fine spirit and flavor. Common keeping mustard may be made by only substituting water for the vinegar, with or without garlic, and a little salt. The flour of mustard should be gradually mixed with the boiling water or vinegar, to a proper thickness, and rubbed perfectly smooth.

HOW TO RAISE TURKIES.

Plunge the young chick into a vessel of cold water, the hour, or if that cannot be, the day it is hatched. Force it to swallow one whole pepper corn, then return it to its mother. From that time it will become hardy and not fear the cold. When young turkies begin to droop, examine carefully the feathers on their rumps, and you will find two or three, whose quill part is filled with blood. Upon drawing these the chick recovers, and after requires no more care than is bestowed on any other poultry.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

CORSETS.

Mrs. Deshang of Bethany in New Jersey, was the mother of three amiable daughters highly accomplished and beautiful; the young ladies have long been in the habit of lacing as tight as any of their neighbors; one has become quite infirm and the other two evidently droop. The alarmed parent stated the situation of her children to her old friend the venerable Dr. Galen of Philadelphia, who soon after the receipt of her note, forwarded the following reply.

Madam—The case of your charming daughters affects me, and my whole experience may be put in requisition to assist them; that they were healthy, robust, and fine children, I perfectly recollect, and that their healths are now impaired may perhaps be solely ascribed to themselves. Fashion destroys more females than fevers. From a mistaken notion of bettering the best work of Heaven, the infatuated fair risk health and even life itself. I deem the corset of the present day to be a perfect engine of torture, and worthy the Inquisitions of Goa, and Rome, and infinitely worse than the stays of time gone by. These last be sure were injurious, but they left the resemblance of a female shape: the corset on the contrary presents the waists as regularly round and untapering as a white lead keg. The olden stays I remember were laced with a silken string, of the size of the finest twine, but the corset requires a cord equalling the bow string of a Kickapoo Chief. The antiquated hoop was of formidable expansion, and when first thrown upon the public eye created no trivial sensation—but in itself it was perfectly harmless, there was no compression about it; and the lady abode as safely within its ample circumference as the sentinel in his box. Every dog *will* have, and every fashion must have its day; the reign of the corset has endured about as long as the reign of Bonaparte, and like the latter, fatal enough in all conscience. I anticipate the happy period when the fairest portion of the fair creation will step forth unincumbered with slabs of walnut and tiers of whalebone. The constitution of our females must be excellent, to withstand in any tolerable degree the terrible inflictions of the corset eight long hours of every day, or the horrible total of 178,200 minutes in one year. No other animal could survive it. Take the honest ox, and enclose his sides with hoop poles, put an oaken plank beneath him, and gird the whole with a bed-cord, and then demand of him *labor*. He would *labor* indeed, but it would be for breath. Splinter and belay a pig in the same way, and a whine might be aspirated, but it would be a whine of expiration.

But I fear I am trespassing too violently on your patience, and in pity to you conclude with the old Caledonian motto, "Spero meliora."

Yours, GALEN.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1823.

The Farmer's and Gardener's Remembrancer.

APRIL.

Pruning Trees.—It is now, we believe, about the right time to prune your fruit trees, and such of your forest trees as it may be worth while to subject to the operation. Col. Pickering assures us that his "practice has been to prune in the spring, beginning when the buds have scarcely begun to swell; and ending before the expansion of the leaves." That is, commonly, in this climate, from about the 10th of April to the middle of May. A writer in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository, vol. v, p. 121 to 127, accuses N. E. farmers of some very bad management with regard to this department of rural economy. He says "it is a universal practice among the old farmers to mount the tree with a hatchet or bill hook, and hack off any branch which is in a state of decay, or which is misplaced, about six or eight inches from its insertion, leaving a stump to rot, and to operate as a conductor of the water, frost and canker into the mother branch in which it grew, or into the body of the tree according to its situation. This was done originally from an idea that if you cut close to the mother branch, or to the body of the tree, the rot or canker will sieze more readily on its trunk, than if cut at a distance, and that the tree will decay the sooner. This practice has been followed without reflection, and without reason by many, but the error is so obvious that any man of observation may see it yearly; and any one who doubts may satisfy himself in one season of the incorrectness of the practice, by making his experiments on a young tree."

This writer advises the orchardist, when he has fixed upon a limb to be lopped off, if it is large and heavy, to cut first at some distance from its insertion, to prevent its weight in falling from lacerating the bark of the shoulder, whence your final cut is to be; because this leaves an opening for water to get under the bark, and cannot easily be healed.* You may now saw the stump close to the branch from which it proceeds with safety; or if it be a portion of a branch which is to be lopped off, the cut should be down to a sound, healthy, lateral branch, growing from the same limb; or if the limb to be cut off proceeds from the body or trunk of the tree, then it should be sawed close to the shaft. The wood in all cases should be smoothed over, and the edges of the bark carefully pared with your knife or hatchet, so that the water will run off the wound. If the cut be made on a side branch, it should be sawed obliquely or slanting, so as to leave no dead wood, or wood to die, and in all cases the cut should be on a sound and healthy part of the tree.

Another error, according to the same writer, consists "in the habit of encouraging luxuriant upright branches to the great injury of the natural horizontal fruit-bearing branches; these are very properly called *glutton* branches, because they consume the sap, which would otherwise go into the lateral and fruit-bearing branches, and in the course of a few years they leave the fruit branches decaying and decayed; the farmer then resorts to his axe, cuts away the dead and dying wood, and leaves the glutton in full possession of all the nourishment which the roots afford; but in return this voracious member of the orchard gives no fruit until many years, and then of an inferior quality. "To prevent this the cultivator should suppress all the stiff, upright shoots the first year they appear, by cutting them off *close* to the branch from which they issue, taking care not to leave the shoulder to the shoot, as he will in such case have the same duty to perform again; but if the shoulder of the glutton be cut away, the sap will be distributed among the lateral fruit bearing branches, which will be kept in vigor, and continue in a healthful fruit-bearing state."

Mr. Forsyth, and other writers, give numerous and minute directions relative to restoring old and decayed trees; and where the kind is very valuable, and its fruit uncommonly fine, it may be expedient to be at some pains and expense to prolong the life of a tree which is withering and rotting with age. But we think there is good sense in the following observations by Mr. M'Mahon, who says, "I am not an advocate for much doctoring old, decayed or sickly trees, but the reverse; therefore recommend as the preferable way to replace such with young healthy trees, so soon as they shew strong symptoms of decay. Whenever you meet with a tree the fruit of which you esteem, propagate it immediately, *whilst in health*, by budding or grafting, &c. and if it should afterwards get into a declined state, replace it with

* Or, to prevent this, the bark and a part of the wood may be *first* cut on the *under side*.

one of the same or some other kind." It is said, however, and we believe truly, that a young tree will not flourish in the spot where an old one of the same kind had grown.

Suckers should not be suffered to remain from one year to another, near the roots nor on the body of the tree. If the tree appears to have a tendency to put forth a redundance of wood, the young shoots should be pinched off while tender, but should not be cut while the sap is flowing, because the blossom buds may thus be deprived of sap.

The gum or natural juice of the tree is the best salve for curing wounds made by pruning; and it generally effects the purpose. But when the tree is old, and the wound large, an artificial covering becomes necessary. Mr. Forsyth's composition of lime, cow dung, wood ashes, and sand is too well known to need a particular description. This composition, however, is not so highly valued as it was formerly. "It does not," says an English writer, "appear the best calculated, whether laid on in paste, or with a brush, to resist the sun and rain." "Having had," he adds, "to head down several large trees, and conceiving this composition not calculated for what I thought essential, namely, keeping out the sun, wind and insects, I had part of the trees dressed with this composition and other parts with a composition of pitch, tar, lime, rubbish and sand, boiled to a hard consistence, and laid on hot. In a few months I found Mr. Forsyth's composition partly scaled off, and washed away, and insects harboring under it; but the tar composition was then, as it is to this day, firmly adhering over the whole surface of the wound."

Another kind of composition, recommended by some writers is composed of rosin, bees wax and turpentine; and a third of tar, bees wax and red ochre, boiled or simmered together. The proportions for the last mentioned are a pint of tar, a piece of bees wax about as big as an English walnut, with about half a gill of red ochre, stirred into the mixture while boiling or simmering. But a writer on fruit trees, whose remarks may be seen No. 19, page 145, column 2d, of the New England Farmer, declares that he has found by experience turpentine to be injurious to trees in Carolina, though he supposes in a northern climate it may have no bad effect. This writer recommends "one measure of olive oil, or hog's lard, three do. of melted bees' wax mixed while hot, to be worked after it is cool till sufficiently pliant." Dr. Thacher says, (Orchardist p. 73) "it is probable that a composition consisting of clay, tempered with horse dung, will be found of equal utility," that is as useful as a mixture of bees' wax, rosin and turpentine. The author of the Agricultural Report of Scotland likewise recommends as a plaister for wounds in fruit trees "a mixture of clay and horse-droppings," and says, "this, as it excludes the action of the air and rain is considered to be equally effectual as Mr. Forsyth's composition."

CURRANTS.—This shrub is propagated from cuttings, or short pieces, cut in the spring, from shoots of the *last year;* and in most cases it is best if they have a joint or two of the *former year's wood*, at the bottom of them. The cuttings, says Mr. Cobbett, should have altogether, about six joints or buds; and three of them should be under ground when planted. The cuts should be performed with a *sharp knife*, so that there may be nothing ragged nor bruised about either wood or bark. It should be trimmed in such a manner that no limbs are allowed to branch out nearer the ground than six inches. Prune the bush every year and keep it *thin of wood*. The Farmer's Assistant says that "an acre, planted with currants, and well cultivated, would probably yield, on an average, a quantity of fruit sufficient to make a thousand gallons of wine yearly. The expense of making the wine does not exceed 50 cents a gallon, and the wine, after having received a little age is worth double that money."

AGRICULTURAL PREMIUMS.

We perceive with much pleasure, that the different Agricultural Societies in New England appear to be laudably and zealously engaged in the great objects of their institutions. We should be happy to copy every agricultural notice, and list of premiums, published in the papers which we receive in exchange; but, in this case, we should make our paper little more than a register of proceedings, which are chiefly interesting to candidates for premiums in particular counties. We wish our articles in general to possess general interest, and to be such as claim the attention of every farmer in every part of the Union. When, therefore, *nothing new* is proposed as an object for a premium, we shall not, generally speaking, copy the notice. We can, however, assure the gentlemen proposing premiums, that our heart is with them, and our pen and types at their service, to be devoted in any mode consistent with our paramount obligations to the *public at large*.

LITERARY CURIOSITY.

The "*Curious old German Book*," described in a preceding column, by our highly esteemed friend and correspondent from Pennsylvania, should seem to be worthy of the attention of the scholar, philosopher and mathematician. That part of it, however, which consists of "obsolete German," we can hardly believe to be the work of Archimedes, who was born at Syracuse, in Sicily, about 287 years before the commencement of the Christian era. At the period when Archimedes lived, we apprehend the German language was not known in Syracuse, and we doubt whether Archimedes ever heard of such a language. In the time of the historian Tacitus, who was born in the year 57 of the Christian era, the Germans, according to that writer, were not acquainted with the use of letters, and of course a very learned and elaborate treatise could not have been written partly in the German language, more than 300 years previous to that period.

We do not pretend even to conjecture how the book in question came into existence. But the following particulars, may, perhaps, assist in tracing the origin of the work. When Constantinople was taken about the middle of the fifteenth century, such writings of Archimedes as existed, together with the commentary of Eutocius, escaped the ravages of the conquerors, and were brought thence into Italy. Here they were found by the famous John Muller, better known by the appellation Regiomontanus, who *carried them into Germany*, and they were soon afterwards, viz. in 1544, published in folio at Basil, in Greek and Latin, by Hervagius, with a preface by Thomas Gechauf. An edition, in Greek and Latin, in folio, was published by Rivaltus, at Paris, in 1615. Many other editions of the various productions of Archimedes have from time to time been published in Germany, France, and Great Britain, but in the accounts of these editions which we have been able to find, we have not seen the title nor any notice of the book mentioned by Mr. Preston. A large folio, however, with upwards of 300 plates, could not be printed in a corner, and probably it is, at least in part, what it purports to be, "really the work of Archimedes." It is possible that the Greek and Latin may be the work of Archimedes and his commenator, and the "obsolete German" may be the production of a German editor. The subject appears to be worthy of further investigation.

Remedy for Swoln Legs and Grease in Horses.

A writer in the last American Farmer gives the following as a remedy for horses whose legs have become swoln by violent exercise. Take one pound of nitre, and half a pound of sulphur, mixed into a mess with molasses. If the disorder is violent, and the legs greatly swoln, give the animal two balls of this composition in twenty-four hours, one at night and another in the morning, for the first two days, and but one every day after till the cure is effected. This writer observes: "I do not assert that this medicine will cure a confirmed grease in horses heels, but it will cure an incipient disorder. Be sure never to apply any grease or ointment to the horses' heels, nothing but a turnip poultice. If the grease be obstinate, nothing but mercury will cure him, thus administered: Give the horse two dr. of Calomel over night, and the next morn a common aloetic purge. This must be repeated three times, stopping one or two days between each dose; after which give him the nitre and sulphur balls. This process will cleanse him thoroughly."

Death of Lieut. Commandant Wm. H. Cocke.—The Fox, a vessel commanded by Lieut. Cocke was despatched by Com. Porter on the 6th of March into Porto Rico on business connected with the expedition. On the Fox's approaching the Moro (a castle mounting 500 guns) she was fired at, and her commander killed by a 42 pound shot. The Spanish apologize for the act, and declare it to have been an unfortunate accident, and it was observed by Com. Porter in the General Orders, published on the melancholy occasion, that "the Captain General of the Island has given the most unequivocal proofs of the most sincere regret that the event has taken place." Every possible mark of respect was paid to the remains of the deceased.

Correspondence between Commodore Porter and the Governor of Porto Rico.—A number of letters have passed between these personages relating to the circumstances attending the death of Lieut. Cocke. It should seem by these that the Governor's apology was not satisfactory. In a letter from Com. Porter dated March 11, and addressed to the Capt. Gen. of Porto Rico, we find the following observations:

"I find your coasts lined with troops since my arrival here. I find reinforcements daily coming in, as I am informed by your order to protect the inhabitants from my resentments. I have found every precaution taken to keep me in profound ignorance of the lamentable occurrence; but these things were all in vain. I saw the insult offered to the flag of my country—I have satisfied your military commanders that their force is despicable compared to that at my disposal, and I have convinced the inhabitants that although they are at my mercy, they will not be made answerable for the offences of an individual."

After some further criminations, Com. Porter observes, "I shall leave the island to-morrow morning with a heavy heart, and shall without delay communicate to my government, the melancholy result of my visit here, which was intended for the benefit of the civilized world in general."

Russian Claims.—The brig Pearl, Capt. Stevens, of Boston, was lately ordered off the North West Coast by the Russian officer, commanding at Norfolk Sound. After leaving the port, the Pearl was boarded by the Russian frigate Apollo, and documents were presented to Capt. S. declaring the Russian claim to exclusive jurisdiction to extend to latitude 51 N. on the North

West coast of America, northward to Behring's Straits, and thence to latitude 27, 50 N. on the Coast of Japan, and that all vessels, of whatever nation, caught within 100 miles, even of those extensive limits, except in cases of distress, shall be subject to confiscation, national vessels not excepted.

African Colony.—It is stated in the Baltimore Mornmy Chronicle, that the American Colonists on the West Coast of Africa, are much annoyed by the natives, who, on the 11th of Nov. and 2d of Dec. to the number of 1500, attacked them and killed one man, one woman and one boy, and wounded four others. All intercourse had been cut off with the natives, and the colonists suffered for provisions, and were almost in a state of starvation. Assistance was ultimately sent from the British schooner Prince Regent, and Capt. Laing negotiated a peace, and a prize schooner of 60 tons was presented to the colonists by the commander of a Colombian armed vessel, and it was hoped they would not be again interrupted.

Tread Mill.—An English paper gives the following account of the success of this invention: "The Tread Mills in several of the towns of the Southern and Midland Counties are completely out of work—in other words where machinery is attached to them for grinding flour, &c. the overseers are obliged to *hire* laborers, as these terrors to evil doers have freightened away the vagrants altogether. In jails where there have been thirty or forty beggars at a time there are now but two or three. The consequence has been a great reduction of prison expense, and a total removal of that nuisance—begging in the streets."

Improved Steam Engine.—A letter has been received in Newburyport from Mr. Jacob Perkins, formerly of that place, in which he states that he had just made trial of his steam engine, and that its success was fully equal to his expectations.

We are informed (says the last number of the London Quarterly Review) on good authority, that in 18 months ending in August last, not fewer than four hundred slave ships had departed from the western coast of Africa, carrying away upwards of 100,000 slaves; nearly one half of these were French, the rest mostly Portuguese.

A merchant in London, Simon Bradstreet, offers, in the London Morning Chronicle, £100 as an immediate contribution to the Spanish cause, and the same sum annually so long as the war lasts, should Great Britain become the ally of Spain.

The Rev. Dr. Gardner, of this city, has been chosen to deliver the next Artillery Election Sermon.

Letters sent by Steam Boats.—By instructions from the Post Master General, all letters and packets of letters, conveyed by steam boats, are to be charged the same rates of postage as letters conveyed over post roads.

The Governor of Louisiana has put his veto on a bill which had passed the Legislature, to prevent Usury.—He says, in his objections, that money is a merchantable article, and ought to be used as such.

Honey.—A tree was lately opened near Dennis' Creek, Cape May county, N. J. 5 1-2 feet in circumference, that was found to contain a honey-comb extending 18 feet in length, completely filled with honey: and a paper published at Bridgetown, in the same State, on the 22d Feb. last, says—"A stick of *logwood* was split open a few days since, at the shop of Messrs. Johnston and Sheppard, in this town, in the heart of which was found a *honey-comb*, fifteen inches long, containing honey of an excellent flavor and in a perfect state of preservation—the comb closely enveloped on all sides with solid timber. How many years have passed since the honey was thus deposited, it is impossible now to discover."

The Mobile Commercial Register states, that within thirteen months the increase of buildings at that place, has been equal to one hundred per cent. in point of value, and that the price of building lots had advanced still more.

A Singular Discovery.—The Detroit Gazette states that a manuscript volume of between three and four hundred pages, was lately discovered by Col. Edwards of that place, under one of his buildings. The book is in a tolerable state of preservation, and is a fine specimen of penmanship. The characters in which it is written are unknown. They are neither Hebrew, Greek nor Saxon, and the only parts of it hitherto intelligible are a few Latin quotations. It is deposited in the Gazette office for the inspection of the curious.

Direct from Com. Porter's Squadron.—The schr. Gleaner, Saunders, 19 days from New Orleans, was boarded on the 10th April, Key West bearing N. distant 6 miles, by a boat from Com. Porter's squadron. The boarding officer informed Capt. Saunders, that the steam brig Sea Gull, the sloop of war Peacock, and the rest of the fleet were lying in Port Allen, Key West; all well. A British sloop of war had captured a piratical vessel, with 60 men, commanded by the notorious Lafitte, who was killed in the action. The pirates hoisted the bloody flag, and cried no quarters—and none were shown, most of them having been killed. Capt. S. has letters from Com. Porter to his friends in the United States.—*New York Ev. Post.*

We understand, says the N. Y. American, from a respectable source in Cuba, that news had been received there from Jamaica, on which great reliance was placed, announcing that the former island was immediately to be taken possession of by the British squadron, under the command of Com. Owen.

Purifying Furnace.—Mr. Ralph Buckley, of New York, has presented a memorial to the Corporation for erecting small purifying furnaces over sewers and canals, which with small coal fires will destroy the foul air and greatly contribute to the health of the city, and add to the value of property in the neighborhood of these sewers.

Piracies.—The editor of the Philadelphia United States' Gazette has had the patience to keep a journal of the piracies committed since the cessation of hostilities between the American government and Great Britain, in 1812. The catalogue contains 3002!

BELLFOUNDER,

The Wonderful Norfolk Trotter, imported July 1822, from England,

WILL STAND THIS SEASON, 1823,

At Twenty Dollars, and One Dollar the Groom. The money to be paid to the Groom at Covering.

THIS celebrated Horse is a bright bay, with black legs, standing 15 hands high; his superior blood, symmetry and action excel those of every other trotting Stallion. He is allowed by the best judges in Norfolk to be the fastest and best bred Horse ever sent out of that County. He has proved himself a sure foal getter, and his Stock for size and substance are not to be surpassed; they are selling at the highest prices of any Horses in Norfolk.

BELLFOUNDER was got by that well known, fast and high formed Trotter, OLD BELLFOUNDER, out of Velocity, which trotted on the Norwich road, in 1806, *Sixteen miles* in one hour, and though she broke fifteen times into a gallop, *and as often turned round*, won her match. In 1808 she trotted *Twenty-eight miles* in one hour and forty-seven minutes, and has also done many other great performances against time.

BELLFOUNDER, at five years old, trotted *Two miles* in six minutes, and in the following year was matched for 200 guineas to trot *Nine miles* in thirty minutes, and he won easily by thirty-two seconds. His owner shortly after *challenged* to perform with him *Seventeen miles and a half* in one hour, *but it was not accepted*. He has since never been saddled or matched.

OLD BELLFOUNDER was a true descendant from the original blood of the *Fireaways*, which breed of Horses stands unrivalled, either in this or any other Nation.

BELLFOUNDER is strongly recommended to the public by the subscriber, as combining more useful properties than any other Horse in America, and will stand, during the season, at his Stable in Charlestown, where all inquiries, post paid, will be attended to.

SAMUEL JAQUES, JR.

Charlestown, Mass. April 25, 1823.

ENGLISH BULL.

FOR sale or to let, an IMPORTED BULL of 3 1-2 years old, of the Normandy breed (similar to the *Alderney*, only rather larger sized) and considered the richest Milkers in Europe. This animal is large, and very finely shaped, a brindle color and perfectly gentle. Price, One Hundred and Fifty Dollars; or if well placed, will be let on equal shares for two years.

Also—TWO BULL CALVES, from first rate Milkers, and a FULL BLOOD ALDERNEY BULL, owned by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society—will be sold for Fifteen Dollars each, if taken away immediately.

Apply to JOHN PRINCE, at his Farm on Jamaica Plain. Roxbury, 19th April, 1823.

FRUIT TREES IN THE NURSERY.

HANDSOME budded Peach Trees, but three years from the seed, yet as large in general as can be reasonably desired, may be had at the KENRICK PLACE in Newton, at 33 cts. each. The Nursery contains upwards of twenty of the best kind of Peaches which have hitherto appeared in the Boston market. Also, 2000 Currant Plants of two years growth, on moderate terms, if applied for soon: they should be planted out at four feet distance in rows four feet apart. Also, large English Walnuts, Butternuts, Catalpa, Mountain Ash, &c.

Newton, April 26.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
ASHES, pot, 1st qual.	ton.	180 00	185 00
pearl do.		175 00	180 00
BEANS, white,	bush	1 00	1 10
BEEF, mess, 200 cwt.	bbl.	9 00	9 50
cargo, No 1,		8 50	8 75
" No 2,		6 50	7 00
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual.	lb.	13	14
" 2d qual.		10	11
small kegs, family,		15	16
CHEESE, new milk		7	9
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	85	90
FLOUR, Baltimore, superfine,	bbl.	7 50	7 62
Genessee		7 50	7 75
Rye, best		4 50	5 00
GRAIN, Rye	bush	80	83
Corn		64	67
Barley		63	65
Oats		43	45
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	9	
HOPS, No 1,		10	12
LIME,	cask	1 25	1 50
OIL, Linseed, American	gal.	65	00
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	3 00	3 25
PORK, Navy Mess	bbl.	12 00	12 50
Bone Middlings		14 00	14 50
Cargo, No 1,		12 00	12 50
Cargo, No 2,		11 00	11 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass	bush	2 25	2 50
Clover	lb.	8	9
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed		55	65
do do unwashed		45	48
do 3-4 washed		45	55
do 1-2 do		40	45
Native do		38	40
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		55	60
do Spinning, 1st sort		50	55
PROVISION MARKET.			
BEEF, best pieces	lb.	8	10
PORK, fresh		6	8
VEAL,		6	8
MUTTON,		5	7
POULTRY,		10	12
BUTTER, keg & tub		15	16
lump, best		16	18
EGGS,	doz.	10	12
MEAL, Rye,	bush	85	90
Indian,		75	80
POTATOES,		37	
CIDER, liquor,	bbl.	1 50	2 25
HAY, best,	ton.	20 00	22 00

RULES FOR ATTAINING LONG LIFE.

The way to long life is like that to everlasting happiness, arduous and difficult. The person who wishes to obtain length of days must avoid too severe bodily exertion, by which he will either bring on himself infirmities or premature age. I can never see but with pain, how the common people keep young children to laborious employments to which their strength is inadequate. Young colts are spared and not set to severe labor till they have obtained a certain age, when their strength is proportionate to the labor required of them; because their owners know from experience that they are spoiled, and become prematurely old and unserviceable unless this indulgence be allowed them. Is it reasonable that we should spare children less than horses? The other extreme is, however, still worse, and if they are indulged in indolence and high living, it cannot be expected that they will "live out half their days."

All too lively sensations, the too free use of the senses, violent passions, excesses of every kind, by whatever name they may be called; severe exertion of the mental faculties, assiduous study, deep meditation and nocturnal vigils, consume the vital spirits, weaken the powers, and bring on premature old age. Indolence and total inactivity, either of the corporeal or mental energies are nevertheless equally to be avoided. Bacon has well expressed this where he says—"The vital spirits ought not to be left to stagnate till they clog up the vessels, neither ought they to be wasted or so expended as to injure those vessels."

A due alternation of sleep and watching is an essential maxim for those who desire longevity. If you sleep too much you collect a superabundance of juices; for sleep feeds the body more, if any thing, than alimentary substances. It is an indispensable rule for such as wish long life to keep the body as near as possible of equal weight. Now by rest it soon becomes heavier, and by fatigue it is rendered lighter. Both militate against the hope of long life.

As to the natural evacuations they must be constantly kept up, but on no account too strongly excited by the use of frequent or powerful medicines. "No cathartics are necessary," says Boerhave; "for there are people of eighty who have never taken any, and yet have always kept their bodies in a proper state." The same remark applies to all artificial evacuations, to blood letting, perspiration, &c.

DEATH OF FATHER WELCH.

The N. H. Patriot gives the following particulars of the venerable Samuel Welch, who died at Bow, at the advanced age of 113 years.

"Mr. Welch spent the early part of his life on the paternal farm at Kingston; afterwards removed to Pembroke, purchased a small tract of land, and settled upon it. About 50 years since, he removed to Bow, where he steadily cultivated his little farm, till the winter of age was gathering around him, and the infirmities of a second childhood warned him of his approaching dissolution. It was not, however, till a hundred summers had passed, that he was compelled to abstain from labor. Mr. Welch had through life been a man of industry, and a lover of retirement. The dangers of Indian warfare had never disturbed him, though the savages for many years lurked in the vicinity. No accident of evil appears ever to have befallen him,—his long life has been an even tenor of quiet industry and comfort, unmarked by those vicissitudes which distinguish the history of many of our aged people. The grand secret of his extraordinary health seems to have been his uniform temperance, which, with a single exception, secured to him through life a sound constitution, and entire exemption from disease. Till within a very short time, his mental powers were unimpaired, and he could converse with freedom and propriety. With the years long passed he was most familiar; and would relate with ease, circumstances that occurred half a century ago, while with recent events and the present race of men, he was little acquainted. For the last few years, he has had many visitors; the young and thoughtless, to behold the patriarch of a century and an eighth—the old, to commune with a man, to whom they too appeared as youths. His appearance was truly venerable. Time had made deep inroads upon his frame; his locks had been touched by the silvery wand; his eye, originally dark and brilliant, gave evidence of decaying lustre; while his countenance, wrinkled with years, and his frame, tottering and feeble, could not but deeply impress the beholder. He spoke of life as one weary of its burthens, and wishing "to be away." His death corresponded with his life—it was calm and tranquil. And we trust he has gone to taste the rewards of a life spent in quiet virtue and unambitious goodness.

Mr. Welch was the oldest native of New-Hampshire. Three, however, have died here at a greater age, viz. Mr. Lovewell, of Dunstable, (father to Col. Zaccheus Lovewell, mentioned in Belknap's N. H. vol. ii, p. 233) aged 120; William Perkins, of New Market, who died in 1732, aged 116; and Robert Macklin, of Wakefield, who died in 1789, aged 115. It may be mentioned, in favor of the general salubrity of our climate, that within a century about one hundred persons have lived in New Hampshire to the age of a century and upwards. We doubt whether any other state in the Union can present so many instances of longevity.

Santieul, the French poet, returning home one night to St. Victoire, at 11 o'clock, the porter refused opening the door, saying he had positive orders to admit no one at that hour of the night. After much altercation, Santieul slipped half a louis d'or under the door, and he obtained immediate entrance. As soon as he got in, he pretended to have left a book upon a stone on the outside, on which he rested himself while he waited for the opening of the door. The officious porter animated by the poet's generosity ran to get the book, and Santieul immediately shut the door upon him. Master porter, who was half naked, knocked in his turn, when the poet started the same objection as *he* had done. Aye, but master Santieul, I let you in, you know, very civilly. So will I you as civilly, said Santieul; you now the price; *in* or *out* is the word, and I can dally no longer. The porter, finding he would have to sleep in the street, half naked, and run the risk of losing his place, slipt the piece of gold under the door, saying, I thought a poet's money would'nt stay long with me, and accordingly purchased his admittance.—*U. S. Gazette.*

PROPOSALS,

FOR PUBLISHING A VOLUME ENTITLED

COMPENDIUM OF AGRICULTURE, or the Farmer's Guide in the most essential parts of Husbandry and Gardening; compiled from the best American and European publications, and the unwritten opinions of experienced cultivators.

Now is the time when agriculture is making more rapid strides towards perfection, than appear to have been for ages. This may be attributed in some measure to the Agricultural Societies established in Switzerland, France, Britain and America. But we know of no work accessible by farmers in general, that contains a good concentrated account of these valuable modern improvements. The work proposed, therefore, has occupied the attention of the Editors a considerable time, and still demands the utmost assiduity in collating and condensing for the press—so that none of the recent improvements in rural economy should be omitted that might render it interesting and serviceable to the farmers of this country.

The Editors, (concerned themselves in rural affairs) fully apprized of the importance of agriculture, the first and most indispensable of arts, are determined to spare no pains to render it a really useful book to all who know how to appreciate such works.

The volume, to contain about 300 pages, 12 mo. at one dollar in boards, will be put to press when the number of subscribers shall be sufficient to encourage printing.

Those persons who have obtained subscribers for the above work, are requested to leave their names at the office of the Manufacturers' and Farmers' Journal, by the first of July next. *Providence, April*, 1823.

THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND, DRAWN up from the communications of the Ministers of the different parishes, by Sir JOHN SINCLAIR, Bart. 21 vols. 8 vo. complete, only one copy; will be sold at the very reasonable price of $50.—Among 58 heads of inquiry addressed to each minister (the whole being too numerous for an advertisement) as a guide for their reports, are—Name, and its origin; description of the soil and surface; climate and diseases; instances of longevity; mode of cultivation; implements of husbandry; manures; seed time and harvest; quantity and value of each species of crop; total value of the whole produce of the district; wages and price of labor; manufactures; man. of kelp; police; roads and bridges; state of the Church, stipend, &c. number of the poor; parochial funds and the management of them; schools, and scholars; number of souls; cattle, nature and value; sheep do.; swine do. coal and fuel; antiquities; character of the people; advantages and disadvantages; means by which their situation could be meliorated. "No publication of "equal information and curiosity has appeared in G. "Britain since Doomsday Book; and that, from the "ample and authentic facts which it records it must "be resorted to by every future Statesman, Philosopher and Divine, as the best basis that has ever yet "appeared for political speculation."

ALSO—The Complete Grazier, &c. 1 vol. 8 vo.—American Orchardist—Cully on Live Stock—Farmer's Assistant—Farmer's Manual—American Gardener—Villa Garden Directory—Cox on Fruit Trees, &c. &c. For sale by R. P. & C. WILLIAMS, Cornhill Square, Boston. April 12.

NEW GARDEN SEEDS.

FOR sale, by GEO. MURDOCK, No. 14, Market Square, a great variety of English and American GARDEN SEEDS, of the last year's growth; consisting of early Frame, Hotspur and Charlton Pease; early and late Cabbage; early and late Cauliflower; Sweet Marjoram, Thyme, &c. with every other Seed suitable for a Kitchen Garden. *Also*, 40 lbs. Mangel Wurtzel or Scarcity—100 lbs. Ruta Baga or Swedish Turnip—a quantity of Armack or Carrot. March 29.—6w

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